

Suffolk County Board of Ethics
Suffolk County, New York

Minutes of Meeting Held on
February 26, 2014
Office of the Board of Ethics
335 Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank, New York 11980

Meeting: *Board Members present:* Robin Long, Richard Halverson and Linda Spahr. *Staff present:* Darlene Kurrass, Board Secretary, taking minutes. *Counsel Present:* Julie Torrey, Esq.

Ascertainment of Quorum: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair, Robin Long. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Adoption of Agenda: At 6:01 p.m. a motion was made by Richard Halverson, seconded by Linda Spahr, to adopt the agenda. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (3-0-0).

Adoption of Minutes: At 6:02 p.m. a motion was made by Linda Spahr, seconded by Robin Long, to adopt the minutes of the January 29, 2014 board meeting as amended. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (3-0-0).

Public Session: At 6:05 p.m. Robin Long opened Public Session. No members of the public were present and no written testimony was submitted. Robin Long closed public session.

Chair Report: Discussed calendar of meetings and upcoming training.

Adoption of Annual Report: The Board will request an extension of time to file for the purpose of adopting the Annual Report by formal resolution at the March 12, 2014 Board Meeting.

Executive Director Report: None.

Executive Session: At 6:20 p.m. a motion was made by Robin Long, seconded by Linda Spahr to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing ongoing confidential matters pertaining to Financial Disclosure Statement Hearings, Adoption of Orders from the January 29, 2014 Hearings, and three Advisory Opinions in accordance with the Suffolk County Administrative Code §A30-8 and the New York State Open Meetings Law. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (3-0-0).

During Executive Session:

The Board adjourned AO-2013-21 and AO-2013-22 and voted on AO-2013-14 (3-0-0),

A motion was made by Robin Long, seconded by Linda Spahr to adopt the orders of the Adjudication by Mail Hearings of January 29, 2014 for FDS#: 363, 266, 338, 291, and 360. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (3-0-0),

A motion was made by Robin Long, seconded by Richard Halverson to withdraw the finding of reasonable cause and the notice of violation for FDS#: 464, 481 and 483 based on a finding of law that the term “chairpersons of County political party committees” of Suffolk County Code Section 77-10(A) does not include chairpersons of any Town political party committees. See Suffolk County Code Definitions Section 77-1. Although the prior ethics statutes required “every political party officer” to file an FDS Statement, the current statute only delineates Town political party persons under the dual office

holding provision of Section 77-4 and does not impose a County FDS filing requirement upon Town Political Party Officers with the County Board of Ethics. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (3-0-0),

A motion was made by Robin Long, seconded by Richard Halverson to withdraw the notice of violation for FDS# 422 as the obligation to file falls under Local Law 1097-2007 rather than Section 77-10 of the Suffolk County Code this Board has no authority to penalize under Section 77-16. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (3-0-0),

The Board conducted Adjudication by Mail Hearings and voted on the following FDS#: 138 (3-0-0), 405 (3-0-0), 406 (3-0-0), 453 (3-0-0), 161 (3-0-0), and 507 (Adjourned).

At 8:26 p.m. a motion was made by Robin Long, seconded by Richard Halverson to close Executive Session. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (3-0-0).

New Business: None.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on March 12, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Robin Long, seconded by Linda Spahr to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote being taken, motion was approved (3-0-0) (8:30 p.m.).